

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please add the following paragraph before the section heading "DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT":

FIGs. 12A and 12B are overviews illustrating the loading and unloading of a substrate.

Please add the following paragraphs before the last paragraph [0048] in the previously filed Substitute Specification:

Figure 12A illustrates the susceptor 30 in a state in which the substrate 34 is being loaded onto the susceptor 30. As shown in Figure 12A, the lift pins 36 are in a retracted state. Figure 12A also clearly illustrates the sliding portion 42 and the groove 44. Figure 12A also illustrates the robot arm 35 carrying the substrate 34 in a forward direction. The robot arm 35 carries the substrate in the forward direction until the substrate 34 starts to slide on the sliding portion 42 and is stopped by a stopper pin 40 (not shown in Figure 12A, but the stopper pin 40 is clearly shown in Figure 5). As shown in Figure 12A, the lift pins are still in the retracted state and are not used because the robot arm 35 supports the substrate 34.

Next, Figure 12B illustrates the substrate having one end that rests on the sliding portion 42 of the susceptor 30. When the end of the substrate 34 slides on the sliding portion 42 and comes to a rest via the stopper pin 40, the substrate 34 scrapes material 45 of the sliding portion 42, and the scraped off material 45 falls into the advantageously placed groove 44. The lift pins 36 are also activated (raised) so as to support the substrate 34. Thus, the substrate 34 is supported by the sliding portion 42 of the susceptor 30 and by the lift pins 36. Therefore, the robot arm 35 can be slightly lowered and removed in a rearward direction such that the substrate

34 is fully supported without use of the robot arm 35. Then a material deposition process, etc. can be performed, and after the process is performed, the robot arm 35 is moved in a forward direction to support the substrate 34, the lift pins 36 are retracted (lowered), and the robot arm 35 is moved in the rearward direction to remove the substrate 34 from the processing chamber.